UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/782,589	BARUZZI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HEMANT PATEL	2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 July 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Applicant's submission filed on July 10, 2008 in response to Office Action dated

March 10, 2008 has been entered. Claims 1-10 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The rejections are necessitated due to

claim amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4.   Claims 1-10 recite the limitation "said first" in ll. 4 and "said second" in ll.6 of

independent claim 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the

claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7.   Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Smyk (US Patent No. 6,603,760 B1), and further in view of Soncodi (US Patent

Application Publication No. 2005/0074026 A1).

Regarding claim 1, Smyk teaches of a method of processing calls in an

aggregate telecommunications network having at least two subnetworks, comprising the

steps of:

creating a set of decision criteria, applied in said first (Fig. 4 item 402) of said at

least two subnetworks, that determine which calls entering said first of said at least two

sub networks should receive service processing in said second (Fig. 4 item 400) of said

at least two subnetworks;

for calls that are to receive service processing in said second subnetwork,

guiding those calls to that subnetwork (col. 5 ll. 12-21, 28-57; col. 6 ll. 3-47; guiding calls

to PSTN);

invoking service processing by said second of said at least two subnetworks (col. 6 ll. 48-57) (col. 4 ll. 64-col. 9 ll. 50).

Smyk teaches of guiding calls and providing service based on information for a line from which call comes in (col. 5 ll. 46-61), and routing calls based on incoming trunk or trunk group from which call comes in was well known in the art, but Smyk does not teach of guiding calls and providing service based on information for a trunk from which call comes in.

However, in the same field of communication, Soncodi teaches of grouping incoming same trunk types in an incoming trunk group, and guiding calls and providing service based on information for a trunk group from which call comes in (Paragraphs 0019-0040).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Smyk to group incoming trunk types in an incoming trunk group, and guiding calls and providing service based on information for a trunk group from which call comes in as taught by Soncodi in order to provide "methods and systems for identifying SIP trunk groups and for selectively processing calls on a per-trunk-group basis" (Soncodi, Paragraph 0005).

Regarding claim 2, Smyk teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is sufficient for causing the invocation of service processing in the second subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 11-47 SM sending

set-up message to class 5 switch; col. 6 ll. 34-47 SM causing signaling of ABCD bits for connection necessary for invocation of service).

Soncodi teaches of providing information conveyed by signaling (SIP) that accompanies the call guided from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is sufficient for causing the invocation of service processing in the second subnetwork (Paragraphs 0019-0020).

Regarding claim 3, Smyk teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for supporting service processing in the second subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 11-47 SM sending set-up message to class 5 switch and SM causing signaling of ABCD bits for connection sufficient for supporting of service; col. 6 ll. 48-57 dialed digits sufficient for service are conveyed via signaling).

Soncodi teaches of providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for supporting service processing in the second subnetwork (Paragraphs 0019-0020).

Regarding claim 4, Smyk teaches of the method wherein said information conveyed by signaling comprises:

information selected from the group of routing number, *original dialed number,* an explicit trigger *or* a combination thereof (col. 6 ll. 11-13, 48-57, information in set-up message and dialed digits i.e. original dialed number).

Soncodi teaches of information selected from the group of *routing number,*

original dialed number, an explicit trigger **or** a combination thereof (Paragraph 0020 SIP

via header information).

Regarding claim 5, Smyk teaches of the method wherein said associated

information conveyed by signaling is selected from the group of information available to

the first subnetwork *calling party number (col. 5 ll. 46-53 subscription of customer based*

on calling party number), original dialed number (col. 6 ll. 48-57 telephony or AIN

services based on collected digits i.e. original dialed number), routing number, charge

number, Originating Line Information, Customer ID, **or** a combination thereof.

Soncodi teaches of the method wherein said associated information conveyed by

signaling is selected from the group of information available to the first subnetwork

calling party number, *original dialed number (Paragraph 0030 toll calls, Paragrpah 0033*

911 calls, Paragraph 0036 LNP query for dialed number, Paragraph 0039 translating

digits), routing number (Paragraph 0020 via header information, Paragraph 0036

inserting routing number by sending peer for the destination peer), charge number,

Originating Line Information (source IP address), Customer ID, **or** a combination

thereof.

Regarding claim 6, Smyk teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

targeting a specific element **or** type of element within said second subnetwork of

said at least two sub networks to invoke service processing for the call (col. 6 ll. 11-13

specific class 5 switch; col. 8 ll. 46-47 PSTN type of network element).

Soncodi teaches of per-trunk-group call processor for selectively processing calls

based on service specified in per-trunk-group table (Paragraph 0019).

Regarding claim 7, Smyk teaches of the method where the selection of the

specific element ***or*** type of element within said second subnetwork may be based on

the location of the origination of the call into the first said subnetwork (col. 5 ll. 1-7 local

service provider for a subscriber is based on subscriber line location originating the

call).

Soncodi teaches of selecting per-trunk-group call processor for selectively

processing calls based on incoming trunk group from which call (Paragraph 0019) and

the identification of this trunk group is based on the location of the origination of the call

(Paragraph 0022 source IP address parameter).

Regarding claim 8, Smyk teaches of the method wherein said decision criteria is

selected from at least ***one of*** the group of:

service type, *features potentially applicable within a given service type (col.5 ll.*

46-53 service subscription), called party number, original dialed number, how close the

ingress switch in said first subnetwork is in terms of some proximity measure to said

second subnetwork, the identity or type of the particular trunk group over which the call

entered said first of said at least two subnetworks, *the ANI of the call (col.5 ll. 46-53*

service subscription related to customer line i.e. ANI), the calling party number of the

call, the current load allocation of the first of said at least two subnetworks, the current

load allocation of the second of said at least two sub networks, the existence of a

qualifying routing plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at

least two subnetworks, *an on/off toggle administrable from a work center (col. 5 ll. 4-9*

toggling service subscription), the type of service processor requires to handle the call

or a combination thereof.

Soncodi teaches of said decision criteria selected from at least *one of* the group

of:

service type, features potentially applicable within a given service type

(Paragraph 0022), called party number, original dialed number (Paragraph 0033), how

close the ingress switch in said first subnetwork is in terms of some proximity measure

to said second subnetwork, *the identity or type of the particular trunk group over which*

the call entered said first of said at least two subnetworks (Paragraph 0019-0025), the

ANI of the call, the calling party number of the call, *the current load allocation of the first*

of said at least two subnetworks, the current load allocation of the second of said at

least two sub networks (Paragraph 0027, 0037), the existence of a qualifying routing

plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at least two

subnetworks (Paragraphs 0035, 0037), an on/off toggle administrable from a work

center (Paragraph 0037 turn on/off based on time), the type of service processor

requires to handle the call (Paragraph 0029) or a combination thereof.

Regarding claim 9, Soncodi teaches of the method wherein the guidance of

calls to the second subnetwork is responsive to a routing number (Paragraphs 0035-

0037).

8.   Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

March (US Patent No. 6,327,358 B1), and further in view of Soncodi.

Regarding claim 1, March teaches of a method of processing calls in an

aggregate telecommunications network having at least two subnetworks, comprising the

steps of:

creating a set of decision criteria (col. 6 ll. 54-64 lowest common point of access;

col. 6 ll. 65-col. 7 ll. 9 gateway that is lightly loaded etc.), applied in said first (Fig. 1 item

104) of said at least two subnetworks, that determine which calls entering said first of

said at least two sub networks should receive service processing in said second (Fig. 1

item 106) of said at least two subnetworks;

for calls that are to receive service processing in said second subnetwork,

guiding those calls to that subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 44-col. 7 ll. 45; redirecting calls to IP

network);

invoking service processing by said second of said at least two subnetworks (col.

8 ll. 16-34) (col. 5 ll. 65-col. 12 ll. 65).

Routing calls based on incoming trunk or trunk group from which call comes in

was well known in the art, and March teaches of reverting a call back to origination point

inherently suggesting the knowledge of where the call comes in, March but does not

specifically teach of guiding calls and providing service based on information for a trunk

from which call comes in.

However, in the same field of communication, Soncodi teaches of grouping

incoming same trunk types in an incoming trunk group, and guiding calls and providing

service based on information for a trunk group from which call comes in (Paragraphs

0019-0040).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to modify March to group incoming trunk types in an incoming trunk

group, and guiding calls and providing service based on information for a trunk group

from which call comes in as taught by Soncodi in order to provide "methods and

systems for identifying SIP trunk groups and for selectively processing calls on a per-

trunk-group basis" (Soncodi, Paragraph 0005).

Regarding claim 2, March teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided

from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is sufficient for causing the

invocation of service processing in the second subnetwork (Fig. 3A step 314; Fig. 4A

step 416 IAM with different parameters).

Soncodi teaches of providing information conveyed by signaling (SIP) that

accompanies the call guided from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is

sufficient for causing the invocation of service processing in the second subnetwork

(Paragraphs 0019-0020).

Regarding claim 3, March teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided

from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for supporting service processing in

the second subnetwork (Fig. 4A step 416 IAM with different parameters i.e. CLD, DPC,

IPA).

Soncodi teaches of providing information conveyed by signaling that

accompanies the call guided from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for

supporting service processing in the second subnetwork (Paragraphs 0019-0020).

Regarding claim 4, March teaches of the method wherein said information

conveyed by signaling comprises:

information selected from the group of *routing number (using DPC in IAM),*

original dialed number, an explicit trigger ***or*** a combination thereof (Fig. 4A step 416

IAM with DPC).

Soncodi teaches of information selected from the group of *routing number,*

original dialed number, an explicit trigger ***or*** a combination thereof (Paragraph 0020 SIP

via header information).

Regarding claim 5, March teaches of the method wherein said associated

information conveyed by signaling is selected from the group of information available to

the first subnetwork calling party number, original dialed number, *routing number (using*

DPC in IAM), charge number, Originating Line Information, Customer ID, ***or*** a

combination thereof (Fig. 4A step 416 IAM with DPC).

Soncodi teaches of the method wherein said associated information conveyed by

signaling is selected from the group of information available to the first subnetwork

calling party number, *original dialed number (Paragraph 0030 toll calls, Paragrpah 0033*

911 calls, Paragraph 0036 LNP query for dialed number, Paragraph 0039 translating

digits), routing number (Paragraph 0020 via header information, Paragraph 0036

inserting routing number by sending peer for the destination peer), charge number,

Originating Line Information (source IP address), Customer ID, *or* a combination

thereof.

> ***Regarding claim 6,*** March teaches of the method further comprising the step of:

> targeting a specific element *or* type of element within said second subnetwork of

said at least two subnetworks to invoke service processing for the call (col. 5 ll. 44-col. 6

ll. 44 redirecting calls to specific IP gateway).

> Soncodi teaches of per-trunk-group call processor for selectively processing calls

based on service specified in per-trunk-group table (Paragraph 0019).

> ***Regarding claim 7,*** March teaches of the method where the selection of the

specific element *or* type of element within said second subnetwork is based on the

location of the origination of the call into the first said subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 54-64

selection of IP gateway corresponding to the DN in second subnetwork is based on

lowest common point of access for the location of calling terminal originating the call).

> Soncodi teaches of selecting per-trunk-group call processor for selectively

processing calls based on incoming trunk group from which call (Paragraph 0019) and

the identification of this trunk group is based on the location of the origination of the call

(Paragraph 0022 source IP address parameter).

> ***Regarding claim 8,*** March teaches of the method wherein said decision criteria

is selected from at least ***one of*** the group of:

> service type, features potentially applicable within a given service type, called

party number, original dialed number, *how close the ingress switch in said first*

subnetwork is in terms of some proximity measure to said second subnetwork (col. 6 ll.

54-64 selection of IP gateway corresponding to the DN in second subnetwork is based

on lowest common point of access for the ingress switch), the identity or type of the

particular trunk group over which the call entered said first of said at least two

subnetworks, the ANI of the call, the calling party number of the call, the current load

allocation of the first of said at least two subnetworks, *the current load allocation of the*

second of said at least two sub networks (col. 6 ll. 65-col. 7 ll. 10 selection of IP

gateway corresponding to the load in second subnetwork), the existence of a qualifying

routing plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at least two

subnetworks, an on/off toggle administrable from a work center, the type of service

processor requires to handle the call ***or*** a combination thereof.

Soncodi teaches of said decision criteria selected from at least ***one of*** the group

of:

service type, features potentially applicable within a given service type

(Paragraph 0022), called party number, original dialed number (Paragraph 0033), how

close the ingress switch in said first subnetwork is in terms of some proximity measure

to said second subnetwork, *the identity or type of the particular trunk group over which*

the call entered said first of said at least two subnetworks (Paragraph 0019-0025), the

ANI of the call, the calling party number of the call, *the current load allocation of the first*

of said at least two subnetworks, the current load allocation of the second of said at

least two sub networks (Paragraph 0027, 0037), the existence of a qualifying routing

plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at least two

subnetworks (Paragraphs 0035, 0037), an on/off toggle administrable from a work

center (Paragraph 0037 turn on/off based on time), the type of service processor

requires to handle the call (Paragraph 0029) **or** *a combination thereof.*

Regarding claim 9, March teaches of the method wherein the guidance of calls

to the second subnetwork is responsive to a routing number (IAM with DPC) (Fig. 4A,

step 416).

Soncodi teaches of the method wherein the guidance of calls to the second

subnetwork is responsive to a routing number (Paragraphs 0035-0037).

Regarding claim 10, March teaches of the method further comprising:

identifying qualified Routing Plans and using said qualified plans in said decision

step wherein the provisioning system responsible for installing Routing Plans as part of

service logic examines each plan to determine its eligibility for service processing in the

second subnetwork (col. 6 ll. 54-col. 7 ll. 45, different routing plans used by service logic

provisioned statically or dynamically).

Conclusion

9.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 5,535,270   Doremus

10.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to HEMANT PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-

8620. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 571-272-7547. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Fan Tsang/   Hemant Patel
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2614   Examiner
                                                                          Art Unit 2614

/Hemant Patel/
Examiner, Art Unit 2614